

The embodiments of the invention in which an exclusive property or privilege is claimed are defined as follows:

What is claimed is:

1. A method for filtering Internet content, the method comprising:

5 receiving a search query message comprising a search query to an Internet search engine;
receiving data from the Internet search engine, the data being responsive to the search query message;
filtering the data to produce a data subset, the filter selecting data for inclusion in
10 the data subset based upon occurrence of the data in a database; the database comprising content selected for inclusion by designated users; and
displaying the data subset in a browser.

2. The method of Claim 1, the filtering being further based upon the occurrence the search query in the database.

15 3. The method of Claim 1, wherein the designated users are users designated based upon a role.

4. The method of Claim 1, wherein the designated users are users designated based upon personal familiarity.

5. A computer program product on a computer readable medium for use in a
20 distributed data processing system for searching for information within the distributed data processing system, the computer program product comprising:

instructions for receiving a search query message comprising a search query to an Internet search engine;

instructions for receiving data from the Internet search engine, the data being responsive to the search query message;

instructions for filtering the data to produce a data subset, the filter selecting data for inclusion in the data subset based upon occurrence of the data in a database; the database comprising content selected for inclusion by designated users; and

instructions for displaying the data subset in a browser.

6. The computer program product of Claim 5, the instructions for filtering being further based upon the occurrence the search query in the database.

7. The computer program product of Claim 5, wherein the designated users are users designated based upon a role.

8. The computer program product of Claim 5, wherein the designated users are users designated based upon personal familiarity.

9. An apparatus for searching for information within a distributed data processing system, the apparatus comprising:

a first receiving component for receiving a search query message comprising a search query to an Internet search engine;

a second receiving component for receiving data from the Internet search engine, the data being responsive to the search query message;

a filtering component for filtering the data to produce a data subset, the filter selecting data for inclusion in the data subset based upon occurrence of the data in a database; the database comprising content selected for inclusion by designated users; and

a displaying component for displaying the data subset in a browser.

10. The apparatus of Claim 9, the filtering component being further based upon the occurrence the search query in the database.

11. The apparatus of Claim 9, wherein the designated users are users designated based upon a role.

5 12. The apparatus of Claim 9, wherein the designated users are users designated based upon personal familiarity.

13. A method for searching for information within a distributed data processing system, the method comprising:

10 receiving, at a server, a search query message comprising a search query from a client to an Internet search engine;
performing a intersystem search of a database in accordance with the search query;
compiling search result data from the intersystem search;
receiving a result message from the Internet search engine; and
15 merging search result data and the result message to generate result information;
generating a display with the result information.

14. The method of Claim 13 wherein:

performing the intersystem search is performing the intersystem search on a hierarchical network.

20 15. The method of Claim 13 wherein:

performing the intersystem search is performing the intersystem search on a peer-to-peer network.

16. The method of claim 13 wherein:

performing the intersystem search is performing the intersystem search of the database, the database including identities of a plurality of selected users.

17. The method of claim 16 further comprising:

5 filtering search result data according to data stored in association with the plurality of selected users.

18. A computer program product on a computer readable medium for use in a distributed data processing system for searching for information within the distributed data processing system, the computer program product comprising:

10 instructions for receiving, at a server, a search query message comprising a search query from a client to an Internet search engine;
instructions for performing a intersystem search of a database in accordance with the search query;
instructions for compiling search result data from the intersystem search;
15 instructions for receiving a result message from the Internet search engine; and
instructions for merging search result data and the result message to generate result information;
instructions for generating a display with the result information.

19. The computer program product of Claim 18 wherein:

20 performing the intersystem search is performing the intersystem search on a hierarchical network.

20. The computer program product of Claim 18 wherein:

performing the intersystem search is performing the intersystem search on a peer-to-peer network.

21. The computer program product of Claim 18 wherein:

performing the intersystem search is performing the intersystem search of the database, the database including identities of a plurality of selected users.

22. The computer program product of Claim 18 further comprising:

5 instructions for filtering search result data according to data stored in association with the plurality of selected users.

23. An apparatus for searching for information within a distributed data processing system, the apparatus comprising:

10 a first receiving component for receiving, at a server, a search query message comprising a search query from a client to an Internet search engine;

a searching component for performing a intersystem search of a database in accordance with the search query;

a compiling component for compiling search result data from the intersystem search;

15 a second receiving component for receiving a result message from the Internet search engine; and

a composing component for merging search result data and the result message to generate result information;

a generating component for generating a display with the result information.

20 24. The apparatus of Claim 23 wherein:

the searching component for performing the intersystem search is performing the intersystem search on a hierarchical network.

25. The apparatus of Claim 23 wherein:

the searching component for performing the intersystem search is performing the intersystem search on a hierarchical network.

26. The apparatus of Claim 23 wherein:

5 the searching component for performing the intersystem search is performing the intersystem search of the database, the database including identities of a plurality of selected users.

27. The computer program product of Claim 18 further comprising:

10 a filtering component for filtering search result data according to data stored in association with the plurality of selected users.